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Howard University Journal

Supplement Class Issue

VOL. 6

WASHINGTON, D. C., FEB. 19, 1909

No. 17

Howard Celebrates Lincoln Centenary

A very impressive and interesting program was given in Andrew Rankin Chapel, Feb. 12, in commemoration of the hundredth anniversary of Lincoln's birthday. The exercises were opened with selections by the University Orchestra after which the University Choral Society marched in singing, "Onward, Christian Soldier."

Gathered upon the platform to assist in this celebration were Speaker Cannon; General Keifer; Secretary Garfield, of the Interior Department; Mr. W. E. Curtis; Justice Job Barnard, President of the Board of Trustees; Dr. Moreland, Secretary of the Y. M. C. A.; Prof. Kelly Miller; and many invited guests. The speakers for the occasion were all greeted with the Howard clap which was so generally joined by the audience that doubtless each one felt himself cordially welcome when he arose to speak. There was the greatest interest paid each speaker and each performed his part well, but there were two features of the exercises which quite overshadow in interest and importance all that was said,—the unveiling of Webber's famous painting, "The Underground Railway;" and the presence, on the stage, of Mr. and Mrs. Levering, who in the days of the Fugitive Slave Law, sacrificed their safety and gave themselves and their home as a station on the Underground Road in which they assisted in the escape of four thousand slaves.

SPEAKER CANNON

When, "The Grand Old Man, of the House," arose to speak, the audience sent forth a volume of

applause that shook the building and might have made one of modest temperament forget his speech but the Speaker stood unmoved and solemn, not even making a nod of recognition. In his speech he spoke of the immutability of the natural law, and the survival of the fittest, he also showed that the policy of conquering nations toward conquered has always become one of oppression and expressed his belief that that is the natural order of affairs. "This is a fighting world," said he, "and if the Negro is to have anything or become anything he must gain it through his own effort crossed by education crossed by industry." He said, further, that he did not believe in the universal higher education and if it were left to him he would require everybody to get a common school education and learn a trade.

GENERAL KEIFER

General Keifer, one of the veterans of the Civil War, and the one who first introduced the bill to reduce southern representation, spoke next. His reception was by no means less enthusiastic than that of the Speaker and if the people had been more generally informed as to his works we have no doubt that his ovation would have been twice as vigorous. He said that, in some degree, he agreed with Speaker Cannon on the immutability of natural law, and in general principle, on the law of the survival of the fittest, but he said by no means did he believe that the rule was to hold out forever against the principles of humanity; nor did he believe that any, so called superior race was justified in flouting its superiority and attempting to maintain it

at the expense of any other race.

The General now delivered a brief address on Lincoln, relating many incidents of the Civil War and many incidents of Lincoln's life of which he himself was a witness.

UNVEILING OF THE UNDERGROUND ROAD

Mr. W. E. Curtis gave a few remarks as the picture was unveiled, giving an explanation of the painting and a brief sketch of the life and works of Levi and Katherine Coffin whose faces are prominent on the canvas. The picture which is valued at ten thousand dollars and has been in Corcoran Art Gallery but through the efforts of the Artist and Mr. H. W. Coffin the piece has been turned over to the custodianship of Howard. It represents Levi and Katherine Coffin, whom Harriet Beecher Stowe has spoken of as the Hallowells, "the Quaker Couple," delivering a wagon load of fugitives to one of the stations of the Underground Road—Levi Coffin is standing up in the wagon looking back to see if anybody is coming; Katherine is escorting the runaways, with their worldly goods in their arms, into the house. Mr. H. W. Coffin read a few remarks concerning his parents.

SECRETARY GARFIELD

Before departing, Secretary Garfield said that he had found great pleasure in working along with President Thirkield, helping him to accomplish what he had outlined in his inaugural address. He spoke of the great field open to Howard students for service, saying that success and happiness could only come to us through our own efforts and only by the per-

Continued on page 6, Column 1

HOWARD University Journal

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N. P. G. ADAMS, Class Editor

"I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true. I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live up to the light I have. I must stand with anybody that stands right, and part with him when he goes wrong."

—Abraham Lincoln

One needs neither a Century Dictionary nor a text book of mythology to appreciate the lesson given above. How simple, how exact, how pure it is. "He who runs may read," understand, and appreciate without strain.

The Clarke University Register answers well the question, "Why do you spell Negro with a capital 'N'?" The Register says that just as "smith" was once a descriptive term indicative of occupation and came to be a family name, "Smith," so "negro," the word

once a common term, descriptive of the black color of a certain race, has come to be a race name, "Negro," just as truly proper as French, German, or English. To this we add another good reason for using it. We want it to be seen, for it is ours and we are proud of it. It carries with it an unique history, in many respects greater and more interesting than that of any other in the world.

Dear Howard

Howard University is the greatest Negro institution of learning in the world. As a lever for lifting an unfortunate race out of the mean, mucky mires of ignorance, it has the longest arm. Its influence has permeated the entire mass of ten millions of Negroes throughout the United States and a vast number of the foreign lands. As years roll on this influence will contribute more and more of its share of heaven to raise the race to a higher plane of civilization.

The great success of Howard University has been due to the skillful and wise management of its officials. Indeed, at present, we have officials of whom we are proud and we regret that time, space, and propriety prevent an extended article of personal praise. We must say, however, that during the short time he has been with us, Dr. Thirkield, by his incessant labors and close application to duty, has rendered us much good and needed service. We give him the hearty cheers of Howard, and hope for him un-

bounded success in his noble efforts

It is true, Howard is the greatest Negro University upon earth, but we are not satisfied, and will not be satisfied until we see our own university represented among the accredited white universities of this nation. It can be, it must be. We feel that every student, every alumnus, every friend of Howard will pledge all strength of mind and muscle to place this University in its proper sphere.

It may be that there are some obstacles in the way, some stumbling blocks in our path, but if the force be of sufficient intensity, rapid motion must ensue. The will is the way. With the aid of our officials, augmented by the strength of the student body and the alumni, Howard can attain her realm.

It seems that Howard should get more students than it does now. So many colored students seem to prefer white institutions. The reason may not be so evident, but probably they have reasons. The northern schools afford better equipment. They never fail to recognize capacity, ability, ambition, or individuality. Merit is the measure of the man. A man is recognized as a man in proportion as he is capable of proving himself such. Scholarship is of prime importance; classification, very exact. Method, aim, inspiration, and interest are inseparable friends. There is always an accurate demand for work, for worth—no crawling, no begging. These schools meet the increased

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demands of the modern high school, the academy, and the modern technical high school.

Our university must climb just a little further up the ladder and make room for the secondary schools. They are at the bottom and are climbing with marvelous rapidity.

"New occasions teach new duties
Time makes ancient good uncouth;
We must upward still and onward
Who would keep abreast of truth."

During the past few years there has come to this University an entirely new element, an element prepared to demand more than has been demanded years ago and unless Howard can satisfy these demands, she must yield the race. It should be Howard's duty to claim as many students as possible from the North and from Northern institutions. We need them, we can use them. It has been said that students from the North are not ambitious, that they are not aggressive, because, it is alleged, on account of color, they have been kept in a corner, they have been ostracized. Such may seem true to persons who have never visited those schools and consequently know very little about them.

Many colored students prefer a Negro university because he would be among those with whom he must spend his life. He needs to get acquainted with the mysterious race of which he is a part.

Some Negro students prefer a white institution, we suppose, because he has become accustomed to the poor training given up there(?), the lax methods used, the promiscuous, indefinite aims, etc, because the Northern university is just next floor above the high school instead of being on the same floor. The student of such universities is graded regularly from the primary school to the Ph. D.—no overlapping, no wasting of time, none whatsoever.

All of our departments are doing good work; some could do better. The Medical College has establish-

ed its genuine reputation throughout the United States. It is a famous institution, it makes Howard known far and wide, The Academy is accomplishing much. The same may be said of the Law School, and the Commercial School. The College of Liberal Arts deserves full many congratulations.

One of our greatest present needs is a Science Building, a Technical School. Our courses in Biology are good and strong under the direction of Prof. Schuh. Since Prof. Scurlock has taken charge of the Department of Physics and Chemistry, he has shown himself quite equal to the task of changing chaos into cosmos. This good man is much handicapped in his work. He is an excellent instructor who keeps abreast of the times. The apparatus of the laboratories of Physics and Chemistry has suffered much use, and has been so widely scattered, that it is often necessary to make apparatus before experiments can be performed. Let us have a Technical School, please, or better equipment in our laboratories as they exist. After we get our Technical School, there are a few other important things we long for; but some of them we hope will come without special plea.

As old language and custom give way to the new; as ante deluvian methods of kindling fire gave way to the Lucifer match; as old forms of life give way to the new; as the old law, "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth," has given away to the command, "return good for evil," so we hope Howard University will undergo a similar stage of progress and evolution, satisfying throughout the ages the demands and exigencies of the times.

N. P. G. ADAMS

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Social Evolution of a Student

Emerging from maternal guardianship and in blissful ignorance of the manipulation of hands and feet, with all the proverbial greenness and gawkiness of their class, they come—the Freshmen. In that unsettled state of loose joints and long legs, of conceit and gall illimitable, they are launched to begin a four years' discipline in social etiquette, the first of which are yet unlearned. Fit subjects are they as "clay in the potter's hands"—these crude youths, "but time works wonders" and in its course even the untamed Freshman learns that backing out of parlors is not an easy manner of exit, nor is it a graceful one, though it is a most effectual mode on record for demolishing furniture and the like. What a period of anxiety this is to his patient instructress, for what agony is more excruciating to the feminine heart than that to witness some cherished article of bric a brac tumbling from its abiding place even unto the floor, a shattered idol? All too late; clumsy, fumbling hands rush to the rescue. Poor boy! this is the first of a series of social breaks.

Again, time plays a part, and the verdant Freshman blossoms into a Sophomore, who while he might be taught the impropriety of putting his hands into other people's pockets, still finds some difficulty in keeping them out of his own, and especially when walking with one of the gentler sex. We do not expect him to know as yet, for he is still young, the purpose for which his hands were given him, though he undoubtedly has an idea, erroneous however, as to their use.

Two summers have passed over his head since that first September day, and behold a Junior. The rough, uncouth edges are noticeably vanishing, and the long deferred hope and patient suffering begins to meet a just reward. The training is measuring its finish,

and we view the Senior with inexpressible pride. Compare the dignity and ease of manner with which he is characterized with the stumbling, untutored Freshman that was, and note the result of social influence. As friction brings to the surface the brilliancy of glittering diamonds, so social intercourse polishes the man and imbues him with that confidence and grace so essential to good manners.

"BUCK" HUNT, '11

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On Thursday evening Feb. 11th, eight young ladies of the Junior and Sophomore Classes were received into the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. The initiation must remain as it began, shrouded in mystery, suffice it to say, the initiated all look happy and are yet alive.

An elaborate banquet was given on Saturday evening, Feb. 13th, from 8:00 to 10:30 o'clock in Miner Hall, in honor of its new members. During the first part of the evening a musical program was rendered, then the members repaired to the dining room where there was one long table prettily decorated with ivy and the Sorority colors. After all were seated the following banquet was served:

|                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Olives            | Cocoa          |
| Tongue sandwiches | French Rolls   |
| Salad             | Assorted Cakes |
| Bisque Ice Cream  | Mints          |

Between the courses toasts were given by the President, Miss Hedgemon, Misses Merriwether, Jenkins and others; and two minute speeches were given by all the new members.

~~~~~

On Friday, Feb. 12, from 7 to 10 p. m., the young ladies of the Pyrean Club gave a Valentine Party in Miner Hall. Garlands of red hearts about the rooms and under the red lights gave them a charming appearance. After the guests had assembled, Miss Purvis, the President, opened the exercises by briefly welcoming all and stating the origin and purpose of the Club. An entertaining program followed after which games were played and refreshments were served. Before departing, each guest received a valentine out of a unique mail box. The party reflected great credit upon the members of the Club.

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SUPPLEMENT.

Sophomore Class.

Numa P. G. Adams, Editor in chief.
Associates.

William A. Love, C. Patrick Murphy,
J. Russel Hunt.

Chemical Exposition.

The recently discovered chemical reaction:— CaCO_3 plus Exposition equals confusion plus mental aberration.

Remarks:—One entire Semester of earnest and most conscientious experimentation has proved even beyond the merest semblance of the remotest suspicion of the most fleeting shadow of the slightest conceivable doubt, that Huxley's chalk immersed in the sweet spirits of Exposition does not give a normal solution. Rather an intellectual reaction takes place in which neither of the bodies originally used can be recognized, but as a result of which we have produced a compound—best known as nonsense—which, when subjected to the flames of final examination, yields a heterogeneous mixture of sweetness and a very little tiny, teeny bit of light in the ratio of zero to infinity. A Tua.

• • • • •

The Old Time Song.

The sentiment today of the Negro-American concerning the old time song seems inclined to hold somewhat in disfavor these heritage of the race, and to classify them in with what is known as "rag-time." There could scarcely be a more serious error. The old-time songs cannot be classed as "rag-time" because they carry with them too touching pathos, too sincere an expression of earnest feeling. Their rhythm, perhaps, might swagger of the "rag," and might have suggested the "rag-time," but long before this modern creation of musical sensationalism was ushered into being, the old time song held sway and cheered many a sore distressed heart. None of us who have ever

heard the Fiske Jubilee Singers can say that the old time song is not beautiful. What sweeter melody than "Swing Low Sweet Chariot," what more touching strains than "I Could'nt Hear Nobody Pray," or "Steal Away." All agree they are beautiful, but right here the sentiment stops. They are beautiful, but are unbecoming to us now, because they remind us of the countless woes of our fathers. A great deal of this is true. But, do they not also speak to us of the glorious faith and simple moral virtue of our ancestors, as a God sent reputation of the Dixon-Tillman sentiment—"The Negro is naturally base?" A people naturally base could not have given such pure sentiments of ideal love and trust. Should not this reason then counteract our reluctance to renew these old melodies, and make us eager to preserve these fair evidences of our virtue. And besides should we not as a race be proud of being the founders of the only truly national American music. The Indians have left but few of their war songs. but the South is literally full of these original plantation songs—indigenous products of a cruel slavery. Should not these songs then be preserved? Coleridge-Taylor, the English musician, has transcribed a few in the hope of preserving them. Can the American Negro fail to give his support? Here is a suggestion. Every long established college for the Caucasian has its college song. What song can the Negro college lay claim to? Why not make the old-time song the distinctive song of the Negro college and in this way, also preserve the old melodies. Let us hope in the near future to hear our Howard Glee Club(?) featuring some of the old songs of slavery.

L. V. ENGLISH

Get the Howard Seal, in the form of a pin. The greatest novel on the market. All the Sophs have ordered one; your time next. Only 75 cents. See B.H.J.

Personal

McMorris seems to care more for Washington society than for Charleston.

Say Cowan, out of the three inmates of Miner Hall which one will you finally choose.

Bobby, don't let B. W. do you too much.

The famous little singer thinks it is more logical to ascend to the Senior College than to descend to the Senior Prep.

A certain lawyer thinks that fate has surely decided him to remain a forerunner of the dust gang. Don't worry, Sam, she'll be back soon.

Curley, you had better speak first for all seems immovable.

Say. Senator Jackson, if you will cull at my office and pay the reward I will take you out of the Dust Club, but you must prove yourself worthy of being kept out.

We notice that Ruth is putting forth all efforts to keep "Young."

Of all capital punishment Miss Cunningham heartily endorses Lynch(ing).

Mr. Sub-Middler:—Isn't the fellow, Carter, exceedingly tall?

Miss Sub-Middler:—Why do you say so?

Why, one day he was walking with a young lady and she informed him that there was a piece of lint on his coat and he said, "Brush it off, dear, you're nearer to it than I am."

We did not know that Mr. War-ricks was such a close student of the Bible until he showed such fondness for "Ruth."

First Senior Prep:—Jack was a great sport when he was in college. Second Senior Prep:—What happened to him?

First Senior Prep:—They sent him away and now he's an export.

We understand why Miss Pre

likes Baltimore. "Murphey(s)"
grow over there.

Numa Adams was once the hero
a tangled love affair, but now
he is [Scott] free.

Miss Marion ——— made a very
creditable average during the past
semester, but she has not received
a mark in her much favored
science of "Cook(ing)" yet.

Uncle Ben is imparting his know-
ledge of business management to
our associate manager. He is also
ascending the [Clif]fs of bliss,
[ford]ing the stream of pleasure,
and achieving much success in the
same.

• • • • •

At the regular meeting of the
Alpha Phi Literary Society on last
Thursday night the following off-
cers were elected:

Mr. B. L. Marchant	President
Mr. J. F. Dagler	Vice-President
Miss Marion Higgs	Secretary
Mr. C. L. Cooper.	Treasurer
Mr. John Allen	Chaplain
Mr. M. S. Walton	Journalist
Mr. George Lyle	Critic

• • • • •

The Freshmen's Sfar

On the eve of the Lincoln Cen-
tenary, long after the last glimpses
of day had faded away, there sat
around a festive board, a represen-
tative bunch of Prof. Miller's fresh-
men, who after the fashion of King
Arthur's knights, were giving their
contribution to the Anniversary of
of the Immortal Lincoln. They
elated how they had struggled and
looked forward with a pleasant
anticipation to the day when they
would leave the strenuousness of a
rustic life and enter the din and
bustle of this Howard atmosphere.
They recalled again the days when
at even tide they had chased cattle
across the meadow and down the
lane that led to the little cabin.

After they had sung a few college
songs, played a few games, and
returned from an imaginary trip in-
to the future, where they had
entered a contest to test the powers
of their memory, they repaired to

the kitchen where they had plan-
ned to dine and send up a silent
one to the memory of Lincoln:

But it was discovered that the host
had locked up a strange creature
in the room where those choice
oysters, imported pickles and that
famous fruit punch were.

They stood in wild amazement
for they suspected that those clever
Sophists had turned a trick on them.

With eyes dilated in anger, and
a look of disappointment on their
faces, they began a search for this
mysterious purloiner, at the same
time uttering expressions the sub-
stance of which is mildly expressed
by the Parasite in the Captivi of
Plautus, when he says: "Wretched
is that man, who is in search of
something to eat and finds it with
difficulty; but more wretched is he
who both seeks with difficulty, and
finds nothing at all; but most
wretched is he, who, when he de-
sires to eat has not that which he
may eat." CRAWFORD.

• • • • •

Off The Hill

Prof. Kelly Miller is one of the
most intelligent writes on Negro
questions, is himself colored, and
is Professor of Mathematics in How-
ard University. His Race Adjust-
ment gives his views on most of the
matter that interests Negroes, and
we commend it most heartily not on-
ly for its clear presentation of the
author's views, but for the general
truth expressed in it.—Independ-

•

There is a certain kind of real-
ism in Mr. Henry O. Tanner's re-
ligious pictures that is thought to
place him in a class almost by him-
self among the moderns. He does
not leave the "impression of some-
how forcing the note, or of build-
ing up the scenes of his work in a
fictitious manner," but on the other
hand, he exhibits an "artless sim-
plicity." He has settled in Paris
for professional purposes, and is
there held in the highest honor by
his fellow craftsmen and the art-
loving public.—Literary Digest.

Charles E. Hall, Census Clerk,
compiles interesting Bulletin.
Frontespiece and three columns of
the Scientific American are given
to Mr. Hall's Bulletin on Clay
Products in the United States.
The deserved recognition of Mr.
Hall's ability by the Scientific
American calls attention to the
high standard of intelligence that
prevails among the colored clerks
in the government service.—
Washington American.

•

Although the Democrats are put-
ting up a strong opposition, those
who are in a position to know, say
that the genial South Carolina
Collector of Customs will be con-
firmed when the filibuster has
ended.

•

The Negro Business league
Herald will be issued by the local
business men within a month.

•

The plans for the presentation
of a memorial to Senator Foraker
are about completed. We hope
that the speaker in charge will be
a man who will not only be honor-
ed by the opportunity, but one
who will himself lend something of
dignity and prestige to the occa-
sion.

•

Notice the growth of our Wash-
ington American. It has behind
it men who feel our needs and are
striving earnestly to meet our de-
mands.

C. Benj. Curley

• • • • •

Why will not Howard University
be represented in the Inaugu-
ral Parade? It has a large rabble
and a good brass band. What do
you think of the largest colored
institution in the world sitting on a
hill where it cannot be hidden,
lying asleep as it were, in the very
city where representative schools
of America will assemble to pay
pay respects to our new President.

The Power of Music

Music. It is only a little word but how much meaning there is in it. To those who are not lovers of sweet sounds and harmonies the word only means something that bores them and often prevents them from doing things more agreeable than listening to the composition of some gifted mind. I say a gifted mind for it is really only the genius who can compose what is worthy to be dignified by the name of music. Others not in this class have composed what they and their admiring and loyal friends deem music but it soon shrinks into utter oblivion, thereby proving that it is not what it and its creator claimed it to be.

To those who really love it, music means all that is best and uplifting in life, often life itself. There are people who have been influenced merely by a strain of music at a critical moment, to take a step that proved to be one of the most important in their doing something which they have been nerv- ing themselves to accomplish. The music of a moment brings what weeks of arguing have not accom- plished. All this work had been of no avail but in the music there was that inexplicable subtle some- thing that was all powerful. And it takes strength, of a surety, so completely to control a human mind with regard to one certain thing that the owner thereof will lose no time in getting into action. But getting into action immediately is the whole secret of the affair.

If more of us follow that plan there would be less procrastinating, less idle dreaming and more actual deeds and accomplishments that would have results of times of the utmost importance. Not only im- portant to those who had been in- strumental in bringing about the result but also important to those who come within its sphere of in- fluence.

And so it goes on with all of us, according to our talents and the

use to which we are putting them. It really seems a pity to waste all those good thoughts, and high and noble ambitions and ideals. But for the time being they make us happy and give us a bountiful be- lief in ourselves and our abilities. If we lived up to the ideals music inspires and put into practice the intuitive feeling which results from these sweet sounds and harmonies we would be marvels in the ac- complishment of things worth while.

J. T. WARRICKS

Sophomore "Meds" Banquet

On last Friday night in room 10 of True Reformers Hall, the Sophs held their first annual ban- quet. And to say that it was a howling success and afforded the fifty-three embryo doctors of med- icine, dentistry, and pharmacy who participated, the time of their life is using the truest ex- pression we could employ.

The bill, as served by Caterer E. Murray was as follows:

Fimbriated Celery Caudate Gherkins
Turkey a la mouspratt, Leibig Sauce
Emulsion of Potatoes

Inadrigeminae
Digital Rolls
Diuretic Coffee
Anti-Piomaine Ice Cream
Aeriated Cake
Solid Extract Erythroxylin cum Lactu
Optimus Punch

and consisted of fuel and plenty of everything.

A short program preceded the feast and was thoroughly enjoyed. The program consisted of

Selection	Quartette
A Vision of Dunbar	T. W. Josey
Bass Solo	C. V. Freeman
An Original Monologue,	
"Medicine"	C. C. Quander
Tenor Solo	E. W. Smith
Selection	Quartette

The entire evening was punctu- ated with Howard songs and yells. M. A. Morrison, president of the class, presided as toast- master and called on the following main speakers who crowned themselves with laurels (as did all the other members present in shorter addresses), F. D. Woodfin, "Medicine;" I. M. Lawrence, "Dentistry," L. C. Dade, "Pharmacy."

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